

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJ: CONSERVATIVE FDP YOUTH PROCLAIM "YOUNG LIBERALS"
ORGANIZATION IN BERLIN

REF: USBER 1516

SUMMARY: A SMALL GROUP OF YOUNGER FDP PARTY MEMBERS,
ADHERING TO THE RIGHT WING OF THE PARTY, HAVE PROCLAIMED
A "YOUNG LIBERAL" ORGANIZATION TO PROVIDE A COUNTER-FORUM
TO THE LEFT WING DOMINATED BERLIN JUNGDEMOKRATEN. THE
LIKELIHOOD THAT ORGANIZATION WILL SURVIVE IS SLIGHT, BUT
ITS FOUNDING REFLECTS DIVISIONS AND DISAGREEMENTS WITHIN
THE BERLIN FDP. END SUMMARY.

1. THE BERLIN PRESS REPORTS THAT A GROUP OF YOUNG FDP
PARTY MEMBERS HAVE ESTABLISHED A "WORKING PARTY OF YOUNG
LIBERALS", HEADED BY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. THE YOUNG
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LIBERALS HAVE SET AS THEIR POLITICAL AIM THE ESTABLISH-
MENT OF A FORUM FOR YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE FDP TO VOICE
THEIR POLITICAL VIEWS BECAUSE IN THEIR OPINION THE
YOUNG DEMOCRATS (JUNGDEMOKRATEN -- JUDOS) HAVE FAILED
SINCE 1969 IN THE TASK OF TRAINING YOUNG FDP MEMBERS
FOR FUTURE LEADERSHIP ROLES. THE NEW "WORKING PARTY"
ARGUES THAT THROUGH ACTIONS SUCH AS THE PUBLICATION

OF THE SO-CALLED "BUBACK NACHRUF" THE JUDOS HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT THEY HAVE LEFT THE TRADITIONS OF LIBERAL POLITICS AND ARE TODAY DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO REAL FDP GOALS.

2. THE YOUNG LIBERALS ACCUSED THE JUDOS OF HAVING REPLACED LIBERAL IDEOLOGIES BY VULGAR MARXIST CLASS WARFARE IDEOLOGY AND OF HAVING RESORTED TO POLEMICIZING AND DEFAMING THE FRG INSTEAD OF OFFERING OBJECTIVE CRITICISM OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WHEN IT IS JUSTIFIED. IN ADDITION BERLIN'S JUDOS ARE ACCUSED OF SEEKING COOPERATION WITH COMMUNIST GROUPS AND ENGAGING IN ANTI-DEMOCRATIC VOLKSFRONT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. THE YOUNG LIBERAL WORKING GROUP ADDED IT WAS A DANGEROUS SIGN FOR THE PARTY THAT JUDOS LOOK UPON THE FDP EXCLUSIVELY AS MEANS TO IMPOSE SOCIALISM ON THE EXISTING POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEM. THE JUDO'S TACTICS, IN THE EYES OF THE YOUNG LIBERALS, HAS SIGNIFICANTLY HARMED THE FDP'S REPUTATION. THE YOUNG LIBERAL WORKING GROUP ALSO SAID THAT ALL ATTEMPTS MADE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS TO CHANGE THE PROGRAM OF THE JUNGDEMOKRATEN HAVE FAILED BECAUSE THE JUDOS HAVE REFUSED TO ACCEPT FOR MEMBERSHIP ANYONE WHO WAS NOT UNRESERVEDLY IN FAVOR OF THE LEFTIST POLICIES PROPOSED BY THE JUDOS.

3. THE NEW YOUNG LIBERAL WORKING GROUP FULLY APPROVES OF AND FEELS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REUNIFICATION OF GERMANY AS SET FORTH IN THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION. IT ALSO INTENDS TO FULLY SUPPORT THE FDP IN THE UPCOMING BERLIN ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

4. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EXECUTIVES COMMITTEE OF THE BERLINER JUNGDEMOKRATEN SAID THE "WORKING PARTY OF YOUNG LIBERALS" SEEMED TO "LACK SERIOUSNESS," AND WOULD BE A PASSING-PHENOMENON SINCE IT COULD NOT HOPE FOR BACKING FROM THE FDP.

5. COMMENT: THE YOUNG LIBERAL ORGANIZERS ARE NOT WELL KNOWN, AND DO NOT HAVE, AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE, A VERY LARGE FOLLOWING AS YET. IT IS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT THE BERLIN FDP WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE RECOGNITION TO GROUP AS AN OFFICIAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION IN THE PARTY. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH MISSION OFFICIAL VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BERLIN FDP ERWIN LOSSMANN (REPRESENTING THE LEFT WING) DISMISSED THE YOUNG LIBERALS WITH A WAVE OF HIS HAND. THE BERLIN PARTY ORGAN, LIBERALE ZEITUNG REPORTED THIS WEEK THAT TOP PARTY OFFICIALS WERE CRITICAL OF THE FORMING OF THE WORKING GROUP AND WONDERED OUT LOUD WHY IT HAD CHOSEN THIS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TIME TO ORGANIZE.

WE TEND TO AGREE THAT ORGANIZATION'S FUTURE IS NOT
BRIGHT. THE FACT THAT IT HAS BEEN FORMED IN MIDDLE
OF THE PRESENT FDP CRISIS (REFTEL IS A GOOD INDICATION,
HOWEVER, OF THE CONTINUING INTERNAL QUARRELS AND
DISUNITY OF PARTY.DAVIS

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